

Bryce Yokomizo Director

May 1, 2002

TO:

**Each Supervisor** 

FROM:

Bryce Yokomizo, Director

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF DIRECT DEPOSIT

This is to update you with the number of participants currently eligible to receive their cash benefits by Direct Deposit as of April 2002. Last month, we reported that the Department, in conjunction with the Auditor-Controller, implemented a Direct Deposit system in December 2001, providing public assistance participants with bank or credit union accounts the option of receiving their benefits via Direct Deposit.

- In March 2002, the first month of Direct Deposit, 3,276 individuals signed up for Direct Deposit; of those, 2,990 received their benefits via Direct Deposit. Actual Direct Deposit payments will always be less than the number of enrollments because cases get discontinued after sign-up, but before payments are issued.
- In April 2002, 7,330, an increase of 124% or 4,054 more participants, were enrolled in the Direct Deposit Program; of those, 6,950 received their benefits via Direct Deposit.

We anticipate Direct Deposit participation to increase in the months to come. Our ongoing marketing efforts will continue to include making the Direct Deposit offer at application, at the annual redetermination/recertification process, and at any time information about Direct Deposit is requested.

We will update your Board quarterly on our progress.

BY:fw

c: Auditor-ControllerChief Administrative OfficerCounty Counsel